

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Directors of the Corporation

FROM: John F. Spencer

Chief Executive Officer

DATE: August 25, 2004

SUBJECT: New Jersey Schools Construction Corporation

July Progress Report

#### Introduction

While students and faculty were enjoying there summers, the New Jersey Schools Construction Corporation (SCC) was working hard on the state's educational infrastructure in the month of July. SCC authorized 6 design awards worth approximately \$109,500,000 in estimated construction for new schools, additions and substantial renovations. The Board of Directors approved a construction contract award with Skanska USA Building, Inc. for the Garfield Middle School for just over \$35 million. Among other benchmark accomplishments, SCC executed 29 grants, in 10 counites with districts that receive less than 55% of their funding in state aid.

# SCC, Elizabeth Educators Break Ground On 3 New Elementary School in July



SCC broke ground on Elizabeth School #29 on July 29, 2004 – the second anniversary of Governor James E. McGreevey's Executive Order establishing the SCC – one day after breaking ground on Elizabeth School #30 and Elizabeth School #31.

The groundbreaking events heralded the start of approximately \$94 million in construction work on the three new elementary schools, which will provide 21<sup>st</sup> century educational opportunities for more than 2,200 students, as well as property tax relief for

residents.

The three new construction projects include:

- Elizabeth School #29, a \$31.6 million project, a 118,452-square-foot facility on a 2-acre parcel on North Broad Street;
- Elizabeth School #30, \$28.3 million project, a 119,660-square-foot located on a 3-acre parcel at 1200 North Avenue;
- Elizabeth School #31, a \$34 million project, a 121,000-square-foot facility on a 5.5-acre parcel at 1000 South Elmora Avenue:
- Each of these three new schools will accommodate 750 students in pre-Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Each facility will include

On behalf of Governor McGreevey, Jack Spencer, SCC CEO presented to Patricia Perkins, Elizabeth Councilwoman, School Superintendent Thomas G. Dunn and Felice Vasquez, Mayor's Office, a proclamation designating July 29<sup>th</sup> as School #29 Day in NJ

general classrooms and small-group instruction rooms, a media center, art and music rooms, science labs, computer labs, a cafetorium with stage, a practice kitchen, a main and auxiliary gym, playgrounds and parking. The schools are scheduled for completion in early 2006.

Moving forward, 17 additional schools are planned for construction to properly meet the academic needs of the children of Elizabeth.

# SCC, Local Officials Update Residents On Vineland School Construction Projects

Vine land residents attended a Community Forum on July 20 jointly sponsored by the SCC and the City of Vineland. The Forum – one in a series of such community gatherings planned by the SCC around the state – allowed residents and parents to hear about progress on school construction and renovation projects in Vineland.

The forum at Vineland High School North featured a discussion on various SCC projects in the city that will total more than \$100 million when completed. To date, over \$23 million in SCC funding already has been committed to projects in the city.

# SCC Spotlighting Opportunities For School Construction Projects in Camden



Camden Board of Education and SCC are inviting the community to a series of public informational sessions about the SCC's Workforce Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program and

other opportunities for small, women-owned and minority-owned businesses in New Jersey's major school construction program in the City of Camden. The first session was held July 24.

The sessions, to be held quarterly, will inform residents, contractors and vendors of the upcoming construction work, the available training opportunities and the steps necessary to pre-qualify and become certified with the State of New Jersey. Presentations were made by SCC, Don Todd Associates, the construction management firm,



American Community Partnership, New Jersey Small Business Development Center, Qualified Women/Minorities In Construction and Minority Business Development Center.

## 17 SCC Employees Among State's First CERT Graduating Class



Seventeen employees of New Jersey Schools Construction Corporation are among the first graduating class of State workers who completed Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. The volunteer program helps prepare the employees to protect themselves, their families, co-workers and communities in emergencies.

Overall, 600 State employees were recognized at a graduation ceremony July 23 by the New Jersey State Police Office of Emergency Management. The graduates received certificates, official green CERT helmets, vests and emergency response kits.

The Governor's office, in conjunction with the NJ Department of Personnel, spearheaded the call for volunteers and allowed State employees to undergo CERT training during the workday. The 20-hour training was conducted over an eight-week period. It provided a hands-on approach to such critical areas as elementary first aid and basic fire suppression. It does not to supplant fire or police personnel, but provides a solid resource in an emergency.

# SCC Intern Earns \$2,000 ACE Scholarship Miaoyu Zhang of Jersey City Aiming for Career in Architecture

Miaoyu Zhang, an intern with SCC's regional office in Jersey City, has received a \$2,000 scholarship from ACE (Architecture, Construction and Engineering) through its program that motivates high school students toward construction industry careers with mentoring and scholarship opportunities.

Ms. Zhang received her scholarship at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual ACE Scholarship Breakfast in Newark. The Chief Executive Officer of the SCC, also was honored at the event for support and participation in the ACE Mentor Program, which has awarded over \$1.2 million in college scholarships.

As an intern, Ms. Zhang got the opportunity to work with SCC project officers and network with well-known architects involved in New Jersey's unprecedented \$8.6 billion public school building program. The SCC presents a good opportunity for students like Miaoyu who are involved with ACE because it provides career guidance and practical experience to future architects, engineers and construction managers. The scholarship and mentoring opportunities are terrific, and we hope to close the circle through this practical experience. The SCC Summer Internship Program has 30 positions this year Directors of the Corporation



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and we look forward to granting such opportunities to other ACE students in the future.

Ms. Zhang, who recently graduated with honors from Dickinson High School in Jersey City, has been involved with the ACE Mentor Program for two years. For her ACE project during her senior year, Ms. Zhang was part of a team that designed a performing arts center, creating floor plans for the auditorium and the basement. She also was a member of the Technology Student Association, National Honor Society and Magic Club at Dickinson High, and participated in Tae Kwon Do, earning a Senior Blue Belt. She has received an Outstanding Woman in Technology Leadership award from the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT), and was recognized by the Society of Women Engineers.

Mike Rafat, director of the SCC regional office in Jersey City, spoke highly of Ms. Zhang in recommending her to the ACE scholarship selection committee this spring.

## **Construction Update**

#### **Construction Starts**

The SCC awarded 7 construction packages in 6 districts during the month of July for combined construction cost estimates totaling \$73,374,200. These awards will involve 9 schools in various districts including: 2 elementary schools, 1 middle school and 1 high school in Clark, a Pre-k – 8 in Elizabeth, and 1 elementary school a piece in Neptune Township, Jersey City and Fairfield Township.

As of July 31, 2004, the SCC has entered into 405 construction contracts that total \$1,906,809,812.

#### **Contractor Procurement**

The SCC advertised 2 construction packages for the same number of school districts in the month of July, which will impact 1 school in each district. A full list of the construction advertisements for July is attached as Exhibit B.

Design bids were sought for 9 schools in 4 districts in July as well. The list of those advertisements is attached as Exhibit C.

#### **Design update**

In July 2004, the SCC authorized 6 design contracts for projects in 5 school districts for projects involving new construction, substantial renovations and additions. The projects are expected to yield total construction contracts of approximately \$109,500,000. Awards included 2 in Long Branch and 1 each in Elizabeth, West New York, Newark and Buena Regional.

As of July 31, 2004, the SCC has entered into 254 design contracts with a total value of \$313,283,634, as well as assumed an additional 74 architectural assignments that totaled \$97,573,032.

## **Predevelopment & Land Acquisition**

At the July Board meeting, the directors granted contingent approval for land acquisition to take place for several projects. One such approval was for a .97-acre tract of land adjacent to the Jersey City Elementary School #12 to make way for a 28,600 square foot addition to the school. The new school will eventually be a 104,170 gross square foot facility that will serve 568 students K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Similar approval was granted for property acquisition in Plainfield. The .531-acre tract of land adjacent to the Clinton Elementary School for a 2-story, 32,186 square foot addition to the existing school. The new school will eventually be a 684,746 gross square foot facility that will serve 324.

The Directors also contingently approved acquisition of property in Trenton which served as the Granville Charter School. The property will serve as swing space for students that will be affected by the phased renovations that will take place to Trenton Central High School. The building is a 3-story facility that has 25 classrooms. The Directors preliminarily authorized the SCC to enter into a two-year lease with the owner with 3 one-year options.

As of July 31, 2004, the SCC has entered into 853 site acquisition contracts for appraisals, site evaluations, environmental investigations, title services and actual acquisitions totaling \$215,045,620.

### **School District Grants**

In July, the SCC executed 29 Section 15 grants with 18 districts that receive less than 55% of their funding in state aid. The total project costs for these grants are expected to be \$25,301,360, with a state share anticipated to be worth \$8,717,027 of that total.

Several districts received multiple grant awards in July. West Deptford Township in Gloucester County will receive grants for projects at 5 schools. The total projects costs are expected to be \$1,100,573, with a state share of \$369,989. The Summit City school district in Union County will receive \$220,243 toward 4 projects, worth \$550,607. North Plainfield Borough in Morris County will receive grants for 2 schools with total project costs of \$4,695,429, of which the state will pay \$2,063,630.

As of July 31, 2004, the SCC has executed 1,542 Section 15 grant agreements with districts that receive less than 55% of their budget in state aid for total project

amounts of \$5,001,576,372, for which the state share totaled \$1,546,280,280. In 2004 alone, 134 districts in 19 counties received \$905,667,824 in direct property tax relief as the state share for projects that totaled \$277,105,138.

## Office of Diversity and Emerging Business Markets

The July edition of the Diversity Digest highlights profiles of the woman-owned business of Brinkerhoff Environmental, the Trenton School District and Senator Ray Lesniak. The July edition also lays out the Fall class schedule and contacts for SCC's Small Business Contractor Training Program. It also discusses the streamlined prequalification process that the SCC has instituted in direct response to small businesses in the contractor community. It is available on the web at <a href="https://www.njscc.com/NJSCC">www.njscc.com/NJSCC</a>.

## Design Bid Advertising and Bid Due Dates as of August 26, 2004

Package #	District	Description of Work	# of Schools	Advertised Web Date	Advertised Newspaper Date	Form 200 Due Date
ET-0070-A01	Keansburg	Keansburg High School	1	7/1/04	7/7/04	7/12/04
ET-0066-A01	Pleasantville	Decatur Ave Alternative H.S.	1	7/9/04	N/A	7/12/04
NE-0035-A01	Newark	Wm. Brown Academy/ Elliot St./Maple Ave.	3	7/15/04	N/A	7/20/04
NE-0036-A01	Newark	Burnett St./Ridge St./Franklin St.	3	7/15/04	N/A	7/20/04
NT-0015-A01	Phillipsburg	Andover Morris E.S.	1	7/26/04	7/30/04	7/29/04

# Construction Bid Advertising and Bid Due Dates as of August 26, 2004

Package #	District	Description of Worl	# of Schools	Advertised Web Date	Advertised Newspaper Date	Bid Due Date
ST-0025-P01 RB	Vineland	Veterans Memorial TCU Project	1	7/21/04	7/26/04	8/10/04
ES-0023-C01	Irvington	Special Ed Counselor Offices	1	7/21/04	7/27/04	8/17/04